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A LIST OF KANSAS MAMMALS.

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Read (by title) before the Academy, at Topeka, December 31, 1904.

THE following list of Kansas mammals is the result of several efforts on my part to bring the subject of mammalian fauna up to date. Several years ago I announced a historical list of our mammals on one of the programs of the Kansas Academy of Science. When the Academy met the article was incomplete, and was accordingly read by title. I now confess that in preparing it I met with difficulties which I then believed to be insuperable, and abandoned the task. Twice afterward I took up the bibliographic notes I had collected and tried to bring order out of their chaotic condition without accomplishing anything of a satisfactory nature.

My difficulties were of a complex kind. My opportunities for collecting materials were confined to a limited part of the state. The materials to which I had access were poorly labeled, often with doubtful localities. There was especial liability to error in listing forms that are either rare or recently extinct when proper authenticated specimens are entirely lacking to confirm the records. The records themselves are meager in quantity, and are much confused by constant changes in nomenclature, and by the creation of subspecies whose range has not yet been determined.

These difficulties have not disappeared and the last one named has become more formidable in recent years. I believe, however, that the list of wild mammals found in Kansas within recent times, now presented, is as nearly correct as the present state of investigation of the subject will permit. I present it as a tentative list, subject to correction. No doubt further exploration, especially along the southern counties of the state, will result in a number of additions to the list. The scattered areas of sand-hills all over the western half of Kansas also present unusual faunal possibilities, because but little has been done in their exploration.

Very little of a systematic nature concerning Kansas mammals has been published. Prof. M. V. B. Knox, formerly connected with Baker University, Baldwin, Kan., published a list of Kansas mammals in the Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science, volume IV. A few additions to this list, based on Coues's and Allen's monograph of the North American *Rodentia*, appeared in volume V of the Transactions.

Professor Knox's list was only partially based on personal captures, and it undoubtedly contains a few untenable records and some names which have been changed by the discovery of earlier synonyms and of varietal forms. But on the whole it was a work of honest effort and real merit.

Another worker, Mr. A. B. Baker, now of the National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C., but formerly of Trego county, presented before the Academy a list of mammals taken or observed by him in the vicinity of Wa Keeney, Kan. This was published in volume II of the Transactions of the Academy, and is of much value as a local list. Some changes in nomenclature have been made since its publication.

Professor Cragin, formerly of Washburn College, in the natural-history bulletins of that institution, presented a few scattered notes on the mammals of the state. Mr. J. R. Mead, of Wichita, has given us some interesting notes of his recollections of our larger mammals, as he found them in hunting and trapping expeditions to the plains in the fifties.

Professor Dyche, of our University, has been too busy as a worker to do much writing, but has given us some valuable notes on the food of some of our animals. I learn that he is preparing a list of our mammals, intending to publish it as soon as some problems of distribution shall be settled. When it is ready, it will undoubtedly be a notable contribution to our knowledge of the Kansas mammalia.

The present list embraces representatives of twenty families and forty-eight genera of mammals, and includes eighty-one species and subspecies.

ORDER I.—*MARSUPIALIA*. Marsupials.

Family DIDELPHYIDÆ. Opossums.

1. Didelphis virginiana Kerr. Virginia Opossum.

   Common in the wooded parts of the state and along the streams westward. It is possible that the dark form, Didelphis californicus, may occur in the southern part of the state.

ORDER II.— *UNGULATA*. Hoofed mammals.

Family CERVIDÆ. Deer.

2. Cervus canadensis Erxl. American Elk.

   Formerly common throughout the state. Now extinct.

3. Odocoileus americanus macrourus Rafin. Long-tailed deer.

   Rafinesque's type of this animal was from the plains of the Kansas river. It is uncertain whether the animal really differs from the Eastern White-tailed deer. It is now probably extinct in the state.

4. Odocoileus hemionus Rafin. Black-tailed Deer, Mule Deer.

   This deer was still found in western Kansas in 1884, but has now probably entirely disappeared.

Family ARTILOCAPRIDÆ. Prong-horned Antelopes.

5. Antilocapra americana Ord. Antelope.
Fast disappearing. A recent law protects these animals, but the law is ignored by many of the settlers in western Kansas. A few small herds have been reported to me within the last year as occurring in the extreme western counties of the state.

Family BOVIDÆ. Cattle, Sheep, etc.

6. Bison bison Linn.
Extinct, except in private preserves.

ORDER III.—*RODENTIA*. Rodents.

Family SCIURIDÆ. Squirrels, Marmots, etc.

7. Sciurus rufiventer E. Geoffroy. Western Fox-squirrel.
Common in the wooded parts of the state. While not protected by law, it does not seem to be decreasing greatly in numbers. Melanistic forms are common.

8. Sciurus carolinensis Gmel. Gray Squirrel.
Found in eastern and southeastern Kansas.

9. Tamias striatus Linn. Chipmunk.
The chipmunk was reported by Professor Knox, and undoubtedly is rarely found in eastern Kansas. The form may be one of the subspecies recently described, probably T. S. griseus Mearns, but until specimens from the state can be obtained for examination the matter will be in doubt.

10. Citellus spilosoma major Merr.
Taken by me at Kinsley, in October, 1904. Probably common in the sandhills of the Arkansas valley.

11. Citellus tridecemlineatus Mitch. Striped Spermophile.
Common in the eastern half of the state.

12. Citellus tridecemlineatus pallidus Allen. Pale Striped Spermophile.
Replaces the last in west Kansas; abundant.

13. Citellus franklini Sabine. Franklin's Spermophile.
Found in most parts of the state ; not common.

14. Cynomys ludovicianus Ord. Prairie-dog.
Fast disappearing in some sections of western Kansas, but still sufficiently numerous in others.

15. Marmotta monax Linn. Woodchuck, Groundhog.
Found in northeastern Kansas; not very common.

16. Sciuropterus volans Linn. Southern Flying Squirrel.
Found only in wooded parts of eastern Kansas. Rarely seen because of its nocturnal habits.

Family CASTORIDÆ. Beavers.

17. Castor canadensis Kuhl. American Beaver.
Once abundant on our streams; now rare.

Family MURIDÆ. Rats, Mice, Voles.

18. Mus norvegicus Erxleben. Brown Rat.
Common everywhere in the state, and a great pest.

19. Mus musculus Linn. House Mouse.
Common throughout the state.

20. Onychomys leucogaster Weid. Missouri Grasshopper Mouse.
Found in many parts of the state, but not common. I captured a specimen at Kinsley in November, 1904.

21. Onychomys torridus Coues. Arizona Scorpion Mouse.
Probably rare in the state. It is included here on the authority of Doctor Coues, in "Rodentia of North America."

22. Peromyscus taxanus Woodh. Texas White-footed Mouse.
Included on the authority of specimens taken at Pendennis and Long Island by Mr. Granger. They may be the same as the next—the Fulvous White-footed Mouse.

23. Peromyscus texanus nebrascensis Mearns. Fulvous White-footed Mouse.
Rather common in western Kansas.

24. Peromyscus michiganensis Aud. and Bach. Michigan White-footed Mouse.
Abundant in eastern Kansas. The genus Peromyscus is in great confusion. While it is probable that a revision of it will greatly reduce the number of forms now recognized, it is probable that explorations in Kansas will add from one to five varieties to our present known list.

25. Sigmodon hispidus texianus Aud. and Bach. Cotton Rat.
Taken at Cairo, Kan., by the United States Biological Survey.

26. Oryzomys palustris Harlan. Rice-field Mouse.
Taken at Neosho Falls by Captain Goss.

27. Reithrodontomys dychei Allen. Dyche Harvest Mouse.
Type from Lawrence, Kan. Rather common in the eastern half of the state and probably farther west.

28. Reithrodontomys dychei nebrascensis Allen. Nebraska Harvest Mouse.
Reported from Pendennis, Lane county. Taken by Mr. Granger. Regarding the Lane county specimens, I may say that good authorities insist that they are identical with R. dychei. However, specimens from Onaga in the collections of the Biological Survey, prove to be specifically distinct from R. dychei. Whether they will be described as a new species or referred to any other form now recognized I am not now able to say. It is very desirable that series of specimens of this genus from many parts of Kansas shall be collected.

29. Neotoma campestris Allen. Prairie Wood Rat.
Type from Pendennis, Kan.

30. Neotoma baileyi Merr. Bailey's Wood Rat.
Common in eastern Kansas. It is now supposed that the above two forms are identical. Should this prove correct the latter would have priority. It is probable that Neotoma micropus surberi Elliot may occur in southwestern Kansas.

31. Microtus pennsylvanicus Ord. Meadow Vole.
Found in marshy lands in eastern Kansas.

32. Microtus austerus Le Conte. Prairie Vole.
    Abundant in eastern and central Kansas. Does much damage to fruit-trees.

33. Microtus nemoralis Bailey. Woodland Vole.
    Common in suitable localities in eastern Kansas. One taken by me at Manhattan November 19, 1904.

34. Microtus haydenii Baird. Hayden Vole.
    Common in western and northwestern Kansas.

35. Synaptomys helaletes gossii Merr. Goss's False Lemming.
    Taken at Neosho Falls by Capt. B. F. Goss. Has been found at Topeka by Charles Popenoe.

36. Fiber zibethicus Linn. Musk Rat.
    Common along streams over the whole state, unless the streams are shallow.

Family GEOMYIDÆ. Pocket-gophers.

37. Geomys bursarius Shaw. Prairie Pocket-gopher.
    Abundant over the eastern half of the state, except in the southern counties outside the Arkansas valley. The most formidable rodent pest in the state.

38. Geomys lutescens Merr. Plains Pocket Gopher.
    Abundant in sandy parts of western Kansas.

39. Geomys breviceps Baird.
    While it is possible that the specimens referred to this species by Professor Baird and taken at Fort Riley by Dr. A. W. Hammond were of the preceding form, there are other specimens extant taken in southern Kansas which, while not typical breviceps, may be referred to this species. Further investigation will no doubt result in the finding of typical specimens within the state.

    Cratogeomys castanops Baird will probably be found in the southwestern corner of the state, as the type came from Las Animas, Colo.

Family HETEROMYIDÆ. Kangaroo Rats, Pocket Mice.

40. Perodipus richardsoni Allen. Richardson's Kangaroo Rat.
    Well distributed in the state, especially in the western part, but most abundant in the sand-hills of the southwest. Perodipus ordii Woodh., on Baker's and Knox's lists, probably does not occur in the state.

41. Perognathus flavescens Merr. Plains Pocket Mouse.
    Found in north-central part of the state.

42. Perognathus hispidus paradoxus Merr. Kansas Pocket Mouse.
    Abundant. Type from Trego county. Specimens from the extreme southern part of the state are brighter in color and smaller than those from farther north, and may approach typical hispidus.

    Perognathus flavus Baird may occur in northwestern Kansas, but no specimens are known to me. On Knox's list.

Family ZAPODIDÆ. Jumping Mice.

43. Zapus hudsonius campestris Preble. Prairie Jumping Mouse.
    Not common. I have seen a few specimens in the state.

Family ERETHIZONTIDÆ. Porcupines.

44. Erethizon epixanthum Brandt. Yellow-haired Porcupine.
Found in rough canyons of western Kansas; not common.

Family LEPORIDÆ. Hares.

45. Lepus campestris Bach. White-tailed Jack-rabbit.
Found over the northern half of the state, but is not abundant.

46. Lepus floridanus mearnsi Allen. Mearns's Hare.
Abundant in northeastern Kansas. Its range southward not fully known.

47. Lepus floridanus alacer Bangs.
Abundant in southeastern Kansas. The question as to whether this form is distinct from the eastern cottontail, Lepus floridanus mallurus Thomas is not fully determined.

48. Lepus arizonæ minor Mearns. Prairie-dog Hare.
This pale form of the cottontail is common in the western part of the state.

49. Lepus melanotis Mearns. Black-eared Jack-rabbit.
Abundant in the state. Type from Indpendence, Kan.

50. Lepus texianus Waterh. Texas Jack-rabbit.
This form, if distinct from the last named, is found in southwestern Kansas.

ORDER IV.—*CARNIVORA*. Flesh-eaters.

Family FELIDÆ. Cats.

51. Felis oregonensis hippolestes Merr.
At one time not uncommon in the territory now covered by Kansas. Records at Valley Falls, in Comanche county, in Trego county, have been made within the last thirty years. The most recent record is the killing of a specimen nine miles north of Hays City on August 15, 1904, by Messrs. Applebaugh and Spratt, who were hunting prairie-chickens at the time, and were armed only with No. 8 chilled shot.

52. Lynx rufus Guld. Bay Lynx, Wild Cat.
Found well distributed in the state, but not common anywhere at the present time.

Family CANIDÆ. Wolves.

53. Canis ater Richardson, Gray Wolf.
Once abundant. Still found in a few scattered sections of the state. There is a bounty of five dollars on the large wolves in most of the counties. Last year only three counties were called upon to pay such bounties—Chautauqua, Republic, and Sherman.

54. Canis griseus Sabine. Dusky Wolf. Lobo Wolf.
This animal, still found in western Kansas in small numbers, may be Canis nubilus of Say, now called Canis mexicanus nubilus. I find that there is great confusion on the identity of the lobo wolf, and that specimens are lacking to decide the matter.

55. Canis latrans Say. Coyote.
Probably rare in the northeastern part of the state.

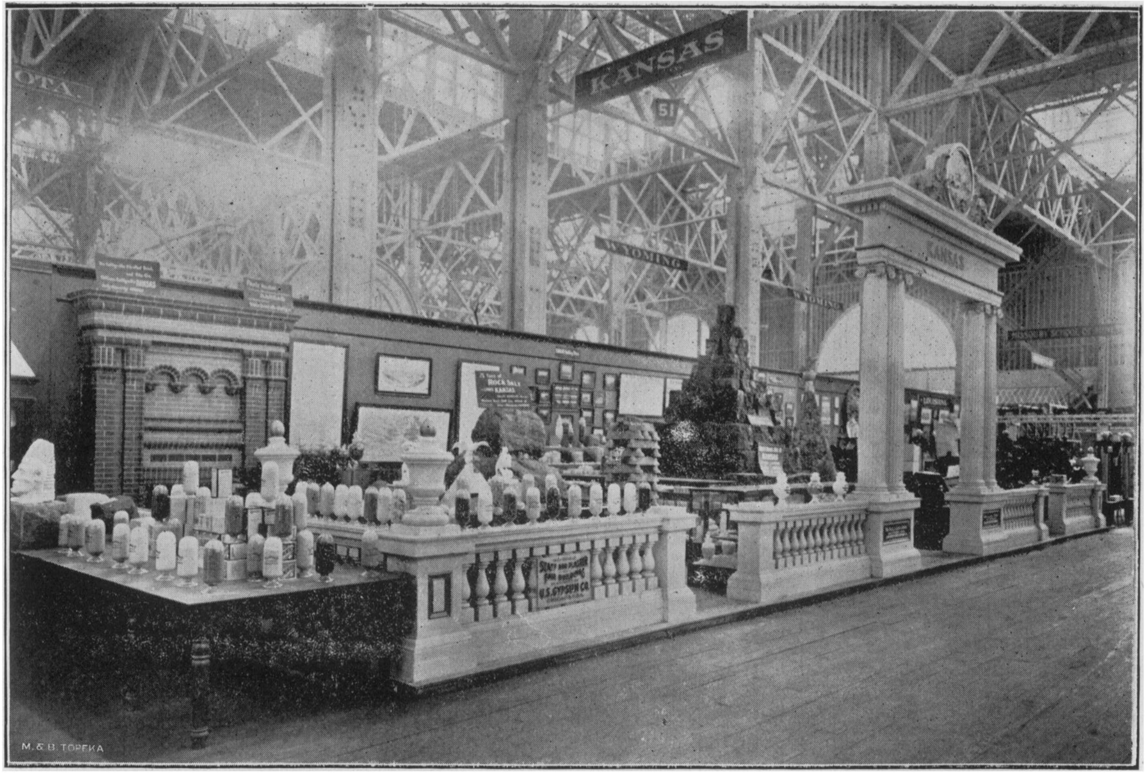

PLATE XXI.—Kansas Mineral Exhibit at Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis (looking east).

56. Canis nebrascensis Merr. Prairie Coyote.
This seems to be the form commonly found in Kansas. During the year ending June 30, 1904, 18,425 were killed in the state, and six counties are missing from the total.

57. Vulpes fulvus Desmarest. Red Fox.
Found in the eastern counties of the state. Probably descendants of both indigenous and introduced parents.

58. Vulpes velox Say. Swift Fox.
Formerly common in western Kansas; now rare.

59. Urocyon cinereoargenteus Schreber. Gray Fox.
Found in the eastern part of the state; rare.

Family URSIDÆ. Bears.

60. Ursus americanus Pallas. Black Bear.
Reported by all the early explorers. Now extinct in the state.

Family PROCYONIDÆ. Raccoons.

61. Procyon lotor Linn.
Common in the wooded parts of the state and westward along streams where there is scattered timber.

Bassariscus astutus Licht., the Northern Civet Cat, is found on Professor Knox's list of Kansas mammals, but I am unable to verify his statement that it occurs in the state.

Family MUSTELIDÆ. Weasels, Otters, etc.

62. Taxidea taxus Schreber. American Badger.
Found throughout the state, but rarely in the eastern part. Abundant on the plains.

63. Taxidea taxus berlandieri Baird. Berlandier's Badger.
A specimen in confinement at Kinsley has all or nearly all the external characters of this southwestern form. The specimen is a young animal of the year and may change in color as it becomes more mature.

64. Mephitis mesomelas varians Gray. Texas Skunk.
Abundant throughout the state, though the northern Plains skunk, Mephitis hudsonica, may partly replace it in the extreme northeastern counties.

65. Spilogale interrupta Rafin. Little Striped Skunk.
Abundant in eastern Kansas.

66. Putorius vison lutreocephalus Harlan. Southern Mink.
Rather common in eastern Kansas and along streams westward.

67. Putorius nigripes Aud. and Bach. Black-footed Ferret.
Found on the plains in western Kansas. Lives in prairie-dog burrows, feeding almost entirely upon that pest. Not common and decreasing in numbers.

68. Putorius longicauda Bonaparte. Long-tailed Weasel.
In eastern Kansas; not very common.

69. Putorius frenatus neomexicanus Bart. and Cockerell. New Mexican Bridled Weasel.
Included because of a specimen in the collection of the State University—apparently from Liberal, Kan. The color and locality both indicate this northern form, and the only reason for hesitation about including it as a Kansas record is that it may have been taken south of the Kansas line.

70. Lutra canadensis sonora Rhoads. Otter.
Formerly common, but now rare. One was captured near Manhattan in September, 1904.

ORDER V.—*INSECTIVORA.* Insectivores.

Family SORICIDÆ. Shrews.

71. Blarina brevicauda Say. Large Blarina.
Rather common in northern Kansas and may occur throughout the state.

72. Blarina parva Say. Small Blarina.
Found in the eastern part of the state; not rare.

Family TALPIDÆ. Moles.

73. Scalops aquaticus machrinus Rafin. Garden Mole.
Common in wooded and cultivated parts of the state.

ORDER VI.—*CHIROPTERA.* Bats.

Family VESPERTILIONIDÆ. Common Bats.

74. Myotis lucifugus Le Conte. Little Brown Bat.
Found throughout the state.

75. Myotis californicus ciliolabrum Merr. Little Pale Bat.
Type from Tregó county; range not known.

76. Myotis subulatus Say. Say's Bat.
Occurs in western Kansas; probably rare.

77. Lasionycteris noctivagans Le Conte. Silver-haired Bat.
Rather common over eastern Kansas.

78. Pipistrellus subflavus F. Cuvier. Georgian Bat.
Undoubtedly occurs, but no specimens have been seen by me. Southern Kansas.

79. Vespertilio fuscus Beauvois. Brown Bat.
Common in the eastern half of the state.

80. Lasiurus borealis Müller.
Southeastern Kansas; not common.

81. Lasiurus cinereus Beauvois. Hoary Bat.
Eastern Kansas; common.